

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application. Claims 7, 18, and 21 have been amended.

CLAIMS:

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A vehicle mounted terminal that is mounted on a vehicle comprising:

a menu screen obtaining unit configured to obtain a menu screen including pieces of link information each associated with different linked servers interconnected with a wireless network;

a connection status checking unit configured to check the connection status of each linked server specified by an individual piece of link information included within the menu screen, the connection status indicating whether content associated with a piece of link information and transmitted from the corresponding linked server is wirelessly downloadable accessible or not by the vehicle mounted terminal;

a menu screen display processing unit configured to display the connection status of each linked server specified by a respective piece of link information; and

a terminal controller configured to monitor for a plurality of predetermined vehicle conditions of the vehicle on which the vehicle mounted terminal is mounted, wherein when the terminal controller determines that one of the plurality of predetermined vehicle conditions has been satisfied, the terminal controller automatically and without direct human intervention directs (1) the connection status checking unit to dynamically recheck the connection status of each of the linked servers and (2) the menu screen display processing unit to then display the up-to-date connection status of each of the linked servers to indicate currently inaccessible linked servers from which information cannot be currently downloaded

by the vehicle mounted terminal such that user selection of a piece of link information associated with a linked server that has become inaccessible due to a change in at least one of the plurality of predetermined vehicle conditions can be avoided and user selection of a piece of link information associated with a linked server indicated as being currently accessible results in the vehicle mounted terminal successfully downloading information associated with the piece of link information selected.

8. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal according to Claim 7, wherein a predetermined vehicle condition that triggers rechecking the connection status of each of the linked servers is determined to be satisfied when the speed of the vehicle detected by a vehicle-speed determining unit of the vehicle changes and crosses a predetermined value.

9. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal according to Claim 7, further comprising a communication processing unit for receiving image and/or audio information transmitted from the at least one linked server through radio waves,

wherein a predetermined vehicle condition that triggers rechecking the connection status of each of the linked servers is satisfied when the electric field strength of the radio waves carrying the image and/or audio information received by the communication processing unit is determined to have changed and crossed a predetermined reference value by an electric-field strength determining unit of the vehicle mounted terminal.

10. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal according to Claim 7, further comprising a communication medium determining unit for determining a change of (1) a communication medium or (2) a communications mode, the change of communication medium comprising a change between a wireless Local Area Network (LAN) and a mobile telephone by which data is wirelessly received by the vehicle mounted terminal, and a change of communications mode comprising a change of communication bands by which data is wirelessly received by the vehicle mounted terminal,

wherein a predetermined vehicle condition that triggers rechecking the connection status of each of the linked servers is satisfied when the communication medium determining unit determines that the communication medium or communications mode of wireless communications of the vehicle mounted terminal has changed.

11. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal according to Claim 7, further comprising a geographic condition determining unit for determining geographic conditions of a driving location of a vehicle upon which the vehicle mounted terminal is mounted, the geographic conditions of the driving location determinable by the geographic condition determining unit include identified high-rise areas, low-rise residential areas, or mountainous areas,

wherein a predetermined vehicle condition that triggers rechecking the connection status of each of the linked servers is satisfied when the type of geographic area determined by the geographic condition determining unit changes.

12. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal according to Claim 7, further comprising a road determining unit for determining the type of road on which a vehicle, on which the vehicle mounted terminal is mounted, is running, types of road determinable by the road determining unit including expressways, highways, or other types of road,

wherein a predetermined vehicle condition that triggers rechecking the connection status of each of the linked servers is satisfied when the type of road determined by the road determining unit changes.

13. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal according to Claim 7, further comprising (1) a communication status determining unit for determining communication status, the communication status indicating a level of signal reception for an accessible linked server, and (2) a communication status history storing unit for storing the history of the determined communication status,

wherein a predetermined vehicle condition that triggers rechecking the connection status of each of the linked servers is satisfied when the past communication status corresponding to the driving location of a vehicle is determined to be unfavorable based upon the communication status history stored within the communication status history storing unit.

14. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal according to Claim 7, wherein the menu screen has a displayable area larger than a display, and the connection status checking unit checks the connection status of each piece of link information included within the entire menu screen which can be selectively displayed in the display by scrolling or page change.

15. (Original) A vehicle mounted terminal according to Claim 7, further comprising a function of a computer which can be connected to the Internet,
wherein the menu screen obtaining unit receives the menu screen through the Internet.

16. (Original) A vehicle mounted terminal according to Claim 7, wherein information transmitted from the linked server includes music data.

17. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal according to Claim 7, further comprising a function of a receiver for receiving information distributed from a broadcast station,

wherein the menu screen obtaining unit retrieves the menu screen stored within a storage device incorporated in the receiver, the receiver being located on the vehicle.

18. (Currently amended) A method for displaying a menu screen, comprising:

displaying a menu screen on a vehicle mounted terminal that is mounted on a vehicle, the menu screen including pieces of link information associated with linked servers interconnected with a network, the linked servers may or may not be accessible by the vehicle mounted terminal depending upon driving state and/or driving location of the vehicle, the pieces of linked information being displayed on the menu screen depending upon a connection status of the corresponding linked server;

as a vehicle on which the vehicle mounted terminal travels along a road, checking a connection status of each linked server specified by the pieces of link information included within the menu screen, the connection status indicating whether radio waves carrying image and/or audio data originating from a corresponding linked server are currently wirelessly accessible downloadable or not by the vehicle mounted terminal; and

displaying on the menu screen pieces of link information that are associated with accessible linked servers from which data is currently downloadable by the vehicle mounted terminal, while pieces of link information that are associated with inaccessible linked servers from which data is currently not downloadable by the vehicle mounted terminal are not displayed on the menu screen;

monitoring for predetermined vehicle conditions of the vehicle on which the vehicle mounted terminal is mounted;

dynamically rechecking the connection status of each linked server when a predetermined vehicle condition has been detected; and

without direct human intervention, automatically updating the menu screen on the vehicle mounted terminal to remove pieces of link information that are associated with link servers that are currently inaccessible and from which information is not currently downloadable by the vehicle mounted terminal and display only pieces of link information that are associated with linked servers that are currently accessible via the vehicle mounted terminal and from which information is currently downloadable by the vehicle mounted terminal based upon dynamically rechecking the connection status of each linked server in

response to the predetermined vehicle condition being detected such that user selection of a piece of link information associated with a linked server that is currently inaccessible from the vehicle mounted terminal and from which information is not be currently downloadable by the vehicle mounted terminal can be avoided and that user selection of any displayed piece of link information results in the vehicle mounted terminal successfully downloading information from an associated and currently accessible linked server.

19. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 18, wherein the predetermined vehicle condition is determined to be satisfied when it is determined that the vehicle enters a different type of geographic area.

20. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 18, wherein information transmitted from an accessible linked server includes music data and the predetermined condition is determined to be satisfied when it is determined that a type of road upon which the vehicle is traveling changes.

21. (Currently amended) A vehicle mounted terminal comprising:

a terminal controller comprising:

a menu screen obtaining unit configured to obtain a menu screen including pieces of link information for display on the menu screen, wherein each piece of link information corresponds to a server interconnected with a wireless network;

a connection status checking unit configured to determine a connection status of each server respectively specified by the pieces of link information included within the menu screen, the connection status indicating whether information from an individual server is wirelessly accessible downloadable or not from the vehicle mounted terminal; and

a display processing unit configured to visually indicate whether each server associated with a piece of link information displayed on the menu screen is accessible

based on the respective connection status determined;

wherein the terminal controller is configured to monitor for predetermined vehicle events associated with a vehicle on which the vehicle mounted terminal is mounted that impact the connection status of one or more server, and

when a predetermined vehicle event is detected by the terminal controller, the terminal controller automatically without direct human intervention directs the connection status checking unit to dynamically recheck the connection status of each server, and

if the connection status of a server previously accessible via the vehicle mounted terminal has changed to being inaccessible, the terminal controller automatically without direct human intervention updates the menu screen to reflect that the previously accessible server is currently inaccessible via the vehicle mounted terminal and information from the now inaccessible server is currently not downloadable by the vehicle mounted terminal such that user selection of a corresponding piece of link information associated with the now inaccessible server can be avoided while user selection of a piece of link information associated with a server indicated as being currently accessible results in the vehicle mounted terminal successfully downloading information from the server indicated as being currently accessible.

22. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal of claim 21, wherein one of the predetermined vehicle events monitored for by the terminal controller, and at which the connection status of each server is rechecked, is speed of a vehicle in which the vehicle mounted terminal is mounted increasing about a reference speed.

23. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal of claim 21, wherein one of the predetermined vehicle events monitored for by the terminal controller, and at which the connection status of each server is rechecked, is that a type of road on which a vehicle, in

which the vehicle mounted terminal is mounted, is traveling changes.

24. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal of claim 21, wherein one of the predetermined vehicle events monitored for by the terminal controller, and at which the connection status of each server is rechecked, is that a geographic condition of an area through which a vehicle, in which the vehicle mounted terminal is mounted, is traveling changes.

25. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal of claim 21, wherein one of the predetermined vehicle events monitored for by the terminal controller, and at which the connection status of each server is rechecked, is that a electric-field strength of received radio waves crosses a predetermined reference value.

26. (Previously presented) A vehicle mounted terminal of claim 21, wherein one of the predetermined vehicle events monitored for by the terminal controller, and at which the connection status of each server is rechecked, is that an available communication speed crosses a reference value.